

Jan'y 11.

Some Big Stocks Made Last Year by Gloucester Crews.

Leaders in Each Branch Wrest Big Money From Old Ocean.

The fishing season of 1908 at Gloucester was productive of many big stocks in the various branches of the fishery, and in some instances long standing records were broken. Of course it is not to be supposed that these stocks represent fairly what the fleet as a whole did. Those mentioned below are the highliners in the different branches of the fishery together with others that were up in the front rank, and as such are worthy of mention and credit.

"Sol" Jacobs Led Mackerel Fleet.

In the mackerel fleet sch. A. M. Nicholson, commanded by the famous Capt. Solomon Jacobs, carried off the high line honor, with a stock of \$21,000, each member of the crew sharing \$438.

Capt. Jacobs has held the honor of high line of the mackerel more times than any skipper, and although now one of the oldest in years, as well as in point of service, is still able to keep in the front rank in this most trying and uncertain fishery.

Other fine stocks in this fishery were as follows:

Sch. Monarch, Capt. John F. Vautier, \$18,017.18 stock and \$360.74 share.

Sch. Ingomar, Capt. Wallace Parsons, \$17,983.58 stock and \$403.74 share.

Sch. Elizabeth Silsbee, Capt. John A. McKinnon, \$16,874.58 stock and \$336.88 share.

Sch. Electric Flash, Capt. William Bissert, \$16,184.60 stock and \$361.81 share.

Sch. Clintonia, Capt. Ralph Webber, \$13,711 stock and \$292.72 share.

Sch. Pinta, Capt. Douglass McLean, \$13,120.45 stock and \$280.93 share.

Salt Bank Trawl Codfishery.

In the salt bank trawl codfishery, the highliner was the new knockabout sch. Arethusa, Capt. Clayton Morrissey, one of the finest fishing vessels ever built. This craft made two trips to the banks, sailing on the first, February 27, returning June 20 and weighing off 389,000 pounds of salt cod, then sailing again June 30 and returning October 27 and weighing off 350,000 pounds, giving her a season's total catch of 739,000 pounds, an unusually large amount. On this was made the splendid stock of \$23,389.62, considered the largest season's work ever made at salt bank cod trawling. The crew each made the splendid share of \$611.36.

Previous to going on her first bank trip sch. Arethusa's maiden endeavor was a frozen herring trip to Newfoundland. After taking out her second bank trip last fall, she again went on a Newfoundland trip, this time for salt herring, returning about three weeks ago.

Since she was launched, 13 months ago, she has made the monster stock of about \$40,000. Capt. Clayton Morrissey, her commander, is one of the most notable figures in the North Atlantic fisheries, and although one of the youngest has carried off the high line honor for many seasons in succession.

Another fine stock in this fishery was sch. Smuggler, Capt. Fred A. Morrissey, \$15,558.98, the average share being \$424, and the craft making two trips.

Sch. J. J. Flaherty, Capt. Fred Le Blanc, on one trawl and one dory handline trip, made the fine stock of \$17,798.23, the average share being \$328.12.

Salt Bank Cod Handliners.

In the salt bank dory handline fishery another record was broken, sch. Tattler, Capt. Alden Geel, being the craft to do the trick. Capt. Geel made two trips, weighing off 674,764 pounds of salt cod, stocking \$24,364.09, skipper of the quiet type who lets no the high line share being \$611.51. Previous to this the record had been held, since 1902, by Capt. John McInnis, who in three trips that sea-son, in sch. Tattler, stocked \$24,912.28, his high line share being \$710.49, while 745,475 pounds of salt cod were weighed off as the result of the three trips.

Capt. Geel's fame as a "killer" is well known. He and Capt. McInnis are bosom chums, without peers in their line of business and always on top. Last year Capt. Geel made his famous single trip record which bids fair to stand for years to come.

Some notable single trips in the salt cod line in 1908 were as follows:

Sch. Ella M. Goodwin, Capt. James D. Goodwin, engaged in dory handlining, sailed July 1 and returned October 5, a very quick trip, weighing off 336,013 pounds of salt cod, stocking \$12,276, the average share being \$248.19, the high liner of the crew, Edward Atkinson, making a share of \$324.64, while four others of the crew went over the \$300 mark.

Sch. Arcadia, Capt. William Wharton, on a deck handlining salt cod-fishing trip to Western Bank, weighed off 108,000 pounds of salt cod, stocking \$3800. On this trip the high line share was \$150, while several of the crew made over \$100. This is accounted the largest and most remunerative salt cod deck handline trip ever landed.

Sch. Aloha, Capt. John McInnis, on a late salt cod dory handline trip to Grand Bank and Virgin Rocks, weighed off 334,000 pounds of salt cod, stocking \$11,712.07, the high line share being \$283.51.

In the Halibut Fishery.

In the fresh halibut fishery the high liner from this port, was sch. Cavalier, Capt. Robert B. Porper, with a stock of \$21,248.32, the crew sharing \$430.26. Capt. Porper's reputation as a halibut catcher and passage maker are too well known to need extended comment. He is most reliable and never fails to produce the big stocks that are expected of him, year after year.

Sch. Monitor, Capt. John McKay, in the fresh halibut fishery, stocked \$18,986.67, the crew sharing \$409.89. Capt. McKay is another skipper who has made fresh halibuting a life study and who is always right up in the front rank when the year's work is figured up.

The high line of the fresh halibut fleet is sch. Mooween of Duxbury, commanded by Capt. Daniel McDonald of this city. Sch. Mooween's stock for 1908 was in the neighborhood of \$24,000, the share of the crew being \$593. Capt. McDonald is a brilliant skipper, who always does well and whose favorite fishing spot is the Gully, close to the dreaded northeast bar of Sable island. Like Capt. Porper and McKay, he has spent his lifetime in the halibut fishery.

Georges Halibut Fishery.

In the Georges halibut fishery, sch. Kineo, Capt. John G. Stream, is again the high liner with a stock of \$22,540.08 and a crew share of \$564.32. As in Capt. Porper's case, everybody looks for Capt. Stream to do well and he generally does so. He has been high line of the fleet many seasons and is a thoroughly up to date, hustling skipper, capable, and with one hobby, that of fitting his vessel with the best of everything in the way of rigging, ground tackle and fishing equipment.

Other good stocks in this fishery last season were:

Sch. Niagara, Capt. Fred Thompson, \$20,301.23 stock and \$516.52 share. Capt. Thompson is a nervy, calculating fisherman of quiet demeanor, who has only recently broken into the Georges halibuting skipper ranks, but who has already made a fine name for himself. He is what the fishermen term a "comer" and much is expected of him in the seasons to come.

Sch. Teazer, Capt. Peter Dunskey, stocked \$20,787.76, the crew sharing \$506.61. Like all the leaders in this fishery Capt. Dunskey is a fine sample of the dashing, driving type of master mariner, who couples with his knowledge of fishing grounds, sort of an intuition when to hustle to market and to drive his good craft there under any and all conditions.

Sch. Paragon, Capt. William Hermon, stocked \$19,818, the crew sharing \$428.75. Capt. Hermon is another skipper of the quiet type who lets no grass grow under his feet, whose stay in port between trips is extremely short, and who takes advantage of every chance to set when on the fishing grounds. For several years he has been one of the leaders of the

Monster Stocks in the Haddock Fishery.

The high line of the haddock and shack fleet from this port is sch. Thomas S. Gorton, Capt. William H. Thomas, with a stock of \$31,190.68. Capt. Thomas is one of Gloucester's leading master mariners and to be

high line is no new experience to him. He is always up with the leaders and his long record in the fisheries is one equalled by few.

Of the market boat fleet, the high liner is sch. Mary E. Cooney, Capt. Frank Cooney, with a stock of \$34,000 and a crew share of the splendid sum of \$1115. Capt. Cooney is a familiar figure in the fishing world, and his record as a market fisherman, extending over a long period of years is one hard to duplicate. A poor year with him is something out of the ordinary. During the past year he was out of his vessel for six weeks as the result of being shot in the thigh, as will well be remembered, but from the effects of which he fortunately recovered.

Flitched Halibut Catchers.

In the flitched halibut fleet the highliner was sch. S. P. Willard, Capt. Augustus Peterson, with a stock of \$11,857.12, the crew sharing \$298.83.

Other good stocks in this branch of the fishery were:

Sch. Fannie A. Smith, Capt. Joseph V. Bonia, \$10,849.74 stock and \$253.96 share.

Sch. Admiral Dewey, Capt. James Hayes, \$9013.17 stock and \$227.26 share.

This trio, Capt. Peterson, Bonia and Hayes, are veritable kings of the far northern fishing grounds, men who invade the Arctic circle with all the confidence born of long experience. To them the Arctic ice floe and the great schools of bergs are every day affairs. True they may have to cut away their cable to clear these dangers, but often they set their trawls right under the shadow of the monster bergs, or against the very edge of the dangerous ice pack. Ever on the alert for the movement of the ice, those who engaged in flitched halibuting have to be master mariners of the coolest judgment and well schooled in northern latitude fishing. Five months they are gone from home, not seeing land in the meantime and even securing their water supply by chiseling ice from the ice bergs.

Georges Handline Fleet.

The highline of the straight Georges handline fleet was sch. W. H. Moody, Capt. Andrew Gorvaneau, with a stock of \$9932.33, the crew's average share being \$257.12.

Capt. Gorvaneau has been for years one of the leading skippers of the straight Georges handlining fleet.

His success has been marked and several times he has been high line and always in the front rank. He knows the business thoroughly, keeps great run of the movements of the fish schools, and is an all around dependable man.

Leaders of Rips Salt Cod Fleet.

The high line of the "drift" or Rips salt codfishing fleet was sch. Volant, Capt. Allen Doleman, with a stock of \$13,401.65, the average share of the crew being \$373.85.

Other vessels making good stocks and good shares in this branch of the fishery were:

Sch. Jubilee, Capt. Oscar Lyons, \$12,078.32 stock and an average crew share of \$339.21.

Sch. Norman Fisher, Capt. John Williams, \$10,463.44 stock.

Sch. Etta Mildred, Capt. John Swim, \$9196.27 stock.

No class of fishermen tends any more strictly to business than the skippers and men of the "Rippers". They get paid according to the number of fish they catch individually, so their reward depends on the judgment of the captains in putting the crafts on good fishing spots and then on the individual exertions of the men at the rail with hooks and lines. As a rule, the skippers of these Rippers are very "fishy" men and the season is one continual drive.

The four skippers named above, Capt. Doleman, Lyons, Williams and Swim, are always well at the front, season after season, the two former many times having a merry, good natured contest for the lead. All are smart, hustling men, losing no time, in or out, and making the most of every opportunity to secure a good trip.

END OF HERRING SEASON

AT HAND.

VESSELS WILL PROBABLY SAIL FOR HOME THE PRESENT WEEK.

This week will in all probability see the end of the herring season at Bay of Islands, N. F. For some days talk of having the crafts come home with what they have has been rife and has now taken definite shape. One owner has ordered his skippers not to stay in the bay after the 15th, and the others say that they will not risk it after this week, so at that time it is safe to say that the remaining vessels will start to come with what they have.

From present appearances and judging from the latest reports from the Arms, some of the craft will be obliged to start with only part fares, and some of these will be pretty light. The captains of the vessels which arrived from there this morning all report herring very scarce when they left and many of the fishermen leaving for their homes. So scarce are the herring that \$3 per barrel and 80 cents a basket are being paid. It is needless to say that these are very high figures and go far to show that the report of herring scarcity is only too true.

When these vessels left the captains of the crafts remaining there were scurrying from one Arm to another in earnest efforts to get fish but were meeting with poor success.

Telegrams from the northward Saturday night indicated no change at Forteau, Strait of Belle Isle, ice and cold weather still prevailing, while at Anticosti it was cold and thin ice was abundant.

Messages from Bay of Islands itself were of a most discouraging nature. One large concern learned that herring were very scarce, and that two of their vessels had very few herring, with poor chance of loading. Another firm had word that there was frost, but herring were terribly scarce and that both of its crafts had but few fish. About all the firms having vessels at the bay heard from there Saturday night and all the telegrams agreed that there was frost and herring were very scarce, with a poor chance for some to secure full loads.

Three of the herring fleet arrived here this morning, sch. Dauntless, Capt. John Matheson, with 1100 barrels of salt bulk herring, 120 barrels of barrelled herring on deck and 50,000 pounds of natural frost herring; sch. Lottie G. Merchant, Capt. Ambrose Fleet, with a partial fare, 1030 barrels of salt herring, and sch. Ralph L. Hall, Capt. Frank H. Hall, with 900 barrels of natural frost herring and 130 barrels of salt herring. The Hall has the first whole cargo of natural frost herring of the season.

Sch. Arcadia of this port, with a salt and frozen cargo, also left for home with the above three crafts, but had to put into North Sydney, C. B., to land her skipper, Capt. Lemuel Firth, who was ill. Two Nova Scotia craft, loaded with frozen herring, also left when they did.

The fare of salt herring of sch. Dauntless is sold to George Perkins & Son.

Capt. Charles Martin has gone to North Sydney, C. B., to bring home sch. Arcadia, Capt. Firth being too ill to proceed in her.

The American vessels still at Bay of Islands, N. F., as far as known, last Saturday, were schs. Oriole, Avalon, Patrician, Veda, M. McKown, Tattler, Ingomar, Saladin, Bohemia which went for frozen herring; schs. Arkona, Aloha Smuggler, Hiram Lowell and Essex, which went for part salt and part frozen cargoes and schs. S. P. Willard, Dora A. Lawson, William Matheson and Georgie Campbell, which went for salt herring fares. The Nova Scotia schs. Coronation, Earl V. S., Clintonia and Juniata were also supposed to be there, all for frozen stock.

The vessels on the way are schs. Arcadia with salt and frozen herring and Harry A. Nickerson and Fannie A. Smith with frozen cargoes, these crafts being Gloucester vessels. Two Nova Scotia vessels and one Newfoundland craft are also reported on the way with frozen fares, the latter bound for Halifax, the destination of the other two being also for that port or Boston.

As an indication that the season is about over at Bay of Islands, N. F., A. B. Alexander, who has represented the state department there during the herring fishery season, has his effects packed and is expecting to leave very shortly.

The Newfoundland government cruiser Flona which has been with the herring fleet at Bay of Islands all the season, has left the bay and gone to St. John's to haul up.

MARKET IMPROVED

More Demand for Fresh Fish at T Wharf Today.

There is a better tone to the fresh fish market at T wharf today. The fishermen's offering comprises two off shore fares and a dozen shore trips, all of satisfactory size.

Sch. Onato, Capt. J. Henry Lar-kin, is high boat with 90,000 pounds of haddock and 10,000 pounds of cod, while sch. Josie and Phebe has 42,000 pounds of hake, haddock and cod. The market boat fares run from 7000 to 25,000 pounds, there being an unusual amount of haddock in the lot.

Old off shore haddock are set at \$2 with half a dollar better for new goods, while shore live haddock are quoted at \$4. Cod are looking up, large bringing from \$2.50 to \$3.50. Hake were in fair demand at \$2.

At this port this morning are no fresh fish fares, salt and frozen herring holding the center of the stage in the spot light.

Fishing Facts and Fancies.

It is stated that the flat fish on the Dutch coast of Zealand has considerably improved, a circumstance attributed by the fishermen to the destruction of seals. Since, 1900 when the government began paying premiums for the seals killed, the catch of flatfishes has gone up from 9000 to 50,000 kilogrammes.

After a very hard passage, sch. Maid of Orleans, with 80,000 pounds of salt cod, arrived at Seattle recently, from Squano Harbor, Unga Island. Several times the craft narrowly escaped destruction, most of her sails were blown away and deck swept.

Nearly 200 fish of every variety were tagged and liberated from the end of Ocean Pier, Atlantic City, recently. Each carries a brass number, and government fish experts hope to keep track of the liberated fish and learn if any of them return there in spring.

A gasoline tank on sch. Marion R., owned by the Florida Fish Company, exploded at Jacksonville recently, tearing great holes in the craft, which sank in the river. The schooner was valued at \$6000; partly insured.

TODAY'S RECEIPTS.

Sch. Ralph L. Hall, Bay of Islands, N. F., 900 bbls. frozen herring, 130 bbls. salt herring.

Sch. Lottie G. Merchant, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1053 bbls. salt herring.

Sch. Dauntless, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1220 bbls. salt herring, 200 bbls. frozen herring.

Sch. Lucania, via Boston.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, via Boston.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, via Boston.

Sch. Catherine G. Burke, via Boston.

Boats, 50 bbls. fresh herring.

Vessels Sailed.

Schs. Mary E. Cooney, Emily Cooney and Margaret Dillon, haddocking.

Today's Fish Market.

Ground pollock, 55 cts per cwt.; gutted, 60 cents.

Salt George cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb for white and 8 cts for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large \$1.75; mediums, \$1.37½; Eastern cod, large \$1.75; medium \$1.37½; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts; hake, 75 cts; pollock, 70 cts.

Eastern deck headline cod, \$4.00 for large and \$3.00 for medium.

Boston.

Sch. Onato, 90,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Ellen C. Burke, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., 6500 haddock, 500 cod, 2000 hake.

Sch. Priscilla, 25,000 cod.

Sch. Marguerite, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Buema, 5000 haddock, 3000 cod, 6000 hake, 1000 cusk.
Sch. Mildred V. Nunan, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod, 5000 hake.
Sch. Valentinna, 1000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Hope, 6000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Rose Standish, 13,000 cod.
Sch. Washakie, 10,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 1000 hake.
Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 7000 haddock, 2000 cod, 1500 hake.
Sch. Josie and Phebe, 12,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 13,000 hake.
Sch. Azorean, 1700 haddock, 400 cod, 300 hake.
Haddock, \$2 to \$4 per cwt.; large cod, \$2.50 to \$3.50; market cod, \$2 to \$2.50; hake, \$2.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Margaret Dillon with 8000 pounds of fresh fish on board, ran in here yesterday and sailed this morning, to have another set before making a market.

Sch. Kineo, Capt. John G. Stream, is all ready to start in on her fresh halibut season and will sail today or tomorrow.

Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes is all ready to resume market fishing under command of Capt. Manuel Domingoes, after a lay up during the bad December weather.

Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, Capt. Martin Guthrie, which has been hauled up here since December 1, has been fitted out again for winter haddocking and sailed Saturday for Provincetown for bait.

After having been laid up for a while, sch. Frances P. Mesquita is being fitted out and Capt. Joseph P. Mesquita will command her as usual in the winter haddock fishery.

Capt. Martin L. Welch of sch. Lucania will now take a trip ashore and Capt. William Firth will command the craft in the winter haddock fishery.

Sch. Conqueror was at Shelburne, N. S., last Friday and cleared.

LIGHTSHIP WENT ADRIFT.

Guide to Yarmouth Harbor Reported Out of Position.

The lightship Lurcher, one of the important guides to our fishermen, broke from her moorings at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning and is now in Yarmouth harbor.

The storm was severe all along the coast causing much loss to lobster fishermen. Seas were seen breaking over the Yarmouth cape. The wind reached a velocity of 60 miles, the highest velocity ever recorded at this locality.

MAY BE FLOATED.

Wreck of Sch. Robin Hood at Bay of Islands Sold for \$160.

The wreck of sch. Robin Hood of Eastport, formerly of this port, and lost some time ago on Woods Island, Bay of Islands, was sold at public auction, as she lay, last week. Capt. Thomas M. Nicholson of Bucksport, Me., was the purchaser for \$160.

It is stated that the craft is not as badly wrecked as was first supposed and that the hull can be floated. In that event Capt. Nicholson has a bargain.

Lobster Shipments.

Invoices of Nova Scotia lobsters at Boston continue very light. The Yarmouth steamer, which arrived Saturday, had only 305 crates.

Good Stocks.

Sch. Benjamin A. Smith, Capt. James D. Goodwin, stocked \$2006 as the result of her recent haddocking trip, the crew sharing \$38.60.

Sch. Lucania, Capt. Martin L. Welch, stocked \$1300 as the result of her recent haddocking trip.

Today's Receipts.

Sch. Senator Saulsbury, Georges, 30,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Preceptor, Quero Bank, 1500 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Romance, via Boston, 10,000 lbs. fresh cod.

Boats, 30 bbls. fresh herring.

Schs. Emily Sears, Rebecca, Ethel B. Penney, Reliance, Julietta, Thomas Brundage, Georgianna, Thomas J. Carroll, Viking, Minerva, Maud F. Silva, John M. Keen, Walter P. Gou-lart, Ida M. Silva, Teresa and Alice, Pythian, Mary Edith, Ida S. Brooks, Edith Silveira, shore.